

PRESS RELEASE

The Cleveland Museum of Art

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FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN WATERCOLORS DISPLAYED AT THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART January 12 - April 11, 1982

A selection of 30 watercolors reflecting the rich and colorful ceremonial life of the Indians of the southwestern United States is on exhibit at The Cleveland Museum of Art through April 11, 1982.

The paintings, all from the Museum's collection, were made during the 1920s and 30s by artists of the Santa Fe Indian School and by Plains Indian artists.

The paintings in the exhibition range from abstract symbolism similar to that used on pottery and kiva walls (a semi-subterranean ceremonial room or chamber room in a Pueblo Indian Village, used by the men especially for ceremonies or councils) to the realism of a Kachina costume or a Navajo woman and her horse. All of the watercolors are impressive for their design and color, based on a long tradition of native art. North American Indian art has always expressed the Indians' beliefs and attitudes toward nature and has traditionally been closely related to their ceremonial life.

Artists represented include Awa Tsireh (Alfonso Roybal), 1895-1955; Jack Hokeah, 1902-1969; Monroe Tsatoke, 1904-1937; and Gerald Nailor, 1917-1952.

The exhibition was organized by Virginia Crawford, assistant curator in the department of later Western art at The Cleveland Museum of Art. Ms. Crawford also wrote the January Museum Bulletin article which serves as the catalog of the exhibition.

Free gallery talks on the exhibition will be given by Gerald Karlovec, instructor in the Museum's art history and education department on Wednesday, March 31, and on Sunday, April 4, at 1:30 pm.

For additional information or photographs, please contact the Public Relations Office, The Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106; 216/421-7340.